RALEIGH AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY

RARS

WORLDWIDE FRIENDSHIP

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"Raleigh Amateur Radio Society News"

JULY 1972 ISSUE 33

Jim Reid, W4BKL

Amateur radio lost a great supporter on June 19, 1972. Jim Reid, W4BKL, passed away suddenly at the age of 54. It was a deep shock for everyone that knew him and he had many, many friends in all walks of life.

Jim was a native of Asheville, N. C. and attended Wake Forest College where he majored in physics. He was first licensed in 1932 as W4CJN when he was 14. His high school buddy, Durham Ipock, became W4EFX, now K4JA. They still had regular schedules on the 75 meter band on Saturday mornings.

Jim came to Raleigh in 1940 as an announcer for WPTF. World War II interupted Jim's announcing and hamming activities. He served in the Navy and was stationed in the Aleutian Islands. His amateur license expired while he was in service. His old call was reassigned to the Asheville School for Boys, so he received the old Asheville High School Radio Club call, W4BKL. His second station was located in the BB&T building under WA4LPI. Jim held a Conditional Class license, but was planning to go after the Extra Class in August. He would have passed with ease.

Jim was sports director and announcer at WPTF when UNC won the national basketball championship in triple overtime. Bill Jackson was his assistant. Many people, including this editor, can still vividly remember Jim calling the play-by-play on that exciting game. In 1958, Jim went to WTVD as Raleigh Manager and in 1960 he joined Branch Banking & Trust Company as executive vice president. At one time, he served in most of Raleigh's traditional civic groups. In 1959, 1961 and 1963, he led the ballot with the most votes and was elected to the Raleigh City Council for 6 years. He was mayor pro tem from 1959 to 1963 and mayor of Raleigh from 1963 to 1965. He still served Raleigh in many ways including being a member of the planning commission. He was in line for the chairmanship of the commission next month. He also had daily weather shows on WRAL-FM amd the Tobacco Network that covers North Carolina.

Jim was a very active amateur as he was in his civic and business interests. He operated from his home, his business, his family home in Asheville and his automobile. He worked all bands but prefered 75 meter phone and 2 meter FM. Jim is one of the reasons the K4ITL repeater is so popular. Of the mony people that know Jim, only his amateur friends knew how much amateur radio meant to him. He was relaxed when he took to the airways for a QSO or just talking amateur radio in person. In 1964 when Barry Goldwater, K7UGA, came to Raleigh on the campaign trail for President in a 727 jet, Jim greeted him in his capacity as Mayor of Raleigh. At a campaign breakfast, Jim and Barry stood in a corner of the room in conference for about 15 to 20 minutes while reporters, politicians and supporters were anxious to talk to Barry. Amateur radio was the "conference" subject but others in the Room thought it was a high level political meeting. Jim went aboard the jet with Barry to see him off. Reporters really thought something was up then. It was just that Barry was having some trouble with his amateur station aboard his jet and asked Jim on to see it and help him solve the problem.

The Raleigh Amateur Radio Society expresses its sorrow to his wife Elizabeth, and his three teenage children, Mike, Nancy and Jimmy. As was stated on TV the night of his death, North Carolina and Raleigh has lost an outstanding citizen.

The Raleigh Times summed our feelings up pretty clearly in their editorial: "Jim Reid faced every day with optimism. His familiar grin and cheerful greeting were infectious, even on the darkest of days. His sudden death reaches into every household that has heard the voice or known the man. And in most, there is some sense of loss."

NEXT MEETING

The next monthly meeting of the RARS will be held Wednesday evening, July 5, at 7:30 PM. RARS Vice President and Program Chairman Tom Martin, K4CQJ, has selected some films to show. Those very important IC's and other electronic devices will be covered.

The meeting will be held at the Civil Defense Headquarters in the basement of the NC State Government Administration Building, 116 West Jones Street. Ample parking is available at the rear of the building. Please enter thru the back door.

PUBLISHED BY RALEIGH AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY, INC., P. O. BOX 17124, RALEIGH, N. C. 27609 ■ ADVERTISING MANAGER – PAUL BROWN, WN4PZW; TECHNICAL EDITOR – BERT BAILEY, W4FMN ■ OFFICERS: PRESIDENT – LEE JOHNSON, WA4ZNA; VICE PRESIDENT – TOM MARTIN, K4CQJ; SECRETARY – CHUCK LITTLEWOOD, W4RUH; TREASURER – BILL McDOWELL, K4CIA. ■ PRINTED BY QUIKCOPY, RALEIGH, NORTH CAROLINA.

SIMULATED EMERGENCY

At 1900 hours on Wednesday, June 14, Wake County experienced a simulated disaster in the form of a plane crash into the east end of the race-track at the State Fairground. The RARS assumed emergency stations at the disaster scene and at the three Raleigh hospitals, Wake, Rex, and Mary Elizabeth. Colonel Thorne, Wake County CD Director, had high praise for the efficiency of the hams communication. Like so many others, he was unaware of the dedication and expertise of ham operators. Initially, the RARS repeater was used, but at the suggestion of our President, Lee WA4ZNA, manning the repeater, operations were shifted to the Raleigh repeater because of possible conflict with scheduled nets in the Durham area. Danny, K4ITL was most co-operative in relinquishing the 82-88 frequencies to the emergency operations. Action really began fast and furious about 1945 hours when ambulances began screaming off to the various hospitals. Chuck, W4RUH handled traffic for more than 34 patients despatched to Wake. George, WB4PNR handled 25 at Rex, and Brian, WB4PMI at Mary Elizabeth handled 15 cases. There were many other types of messages passed such as checks on ambulance loads, availability of doctors, type of injuries, etc.

As it turned out, the only communication established between the disaster scene and Mary Elizabeth was the lone Brian who did yeoman service throughout the exercise and was the last to be released from his post. Considerable assistance was provided the hams by students of Holding Technical Institute, viz., Chuck Davis at Wake, Richard Johnson at Rex, and Stanley Grady WN4ZTF at the disaster area. Stanley is President of the Holding Tech Amateur Radio Club and his fellow students are working on their tickets. They all got a first-hand look at what hams can do as well as a first class case of writer's cramp. All messages were logged and these fine young men enabled the RARS operator to devote full time to transmitting and liaison with the disaster operations officer at the hospital sites. Brian was all alone but he had the moral support of our peripatetic editor Dave, W4YDY who generously loaned his complete 2M set-up to Brian, to include AC power supply, 2 antennas, long lines of coax, funny boods (unread) and good cheer. The entire operation reflected the true cooperative spirit of hams in general, and the RARS in detail.

Many lessons were learned and the after-action critique will help us all to provide even better service in the future. Traffic nets must be designated and specific operators assigned. After a detailed examination of the logs maintained so assiduously by RARS and Holding Tech personnel, a most pertinent and useful recommendation can be presented to CD for future emergencies, hopefully simulated, but in any case, recommendations designed to save lives.

W4FMN, EC Wake County

MINUTES OF RARS MEETING HELD JUNE 7, 1972

The regular meeting was called to order by President Lee Johnson, WA4ZNA, at 7:35 PM at the Civil Defense Headquarters in the N.C. State Administration Building. Guests and members were recognized.

Bob Coms, K4MC, reported on the recent League Officials Meeting in Greensboro. Bob indicated the approximate FCC timetable for handling major rule makings of interest to hams.

Bob Workman, WA4ZZN, explained the revised by-laws as outlined in the last issue of RARS news. They were approved by majority vote and without changes. Bob Johnson W4CQJ and Bob Workman got a vote of thanks for their efforts in completing this project.

Ed Alderman, WA4PEN, told of plans for the RARS social outing to be held at Charlie Brown's Steak House, at 6:30 PM Sunday, July 9, 1972 at $5.00 per person. Several have already signed up, just call Bob or Ellie Workman at 876-2204 if you can make it. There will be a buffet supper and live music later in the evening. Also a picnic outing for later this summer is planned.

A discussion on making name tags available to members at a reasonable cost followed. The matter was referred to the board for further discussion. If any member knows of a source of tags at reasonable prices they are urged to contact John Fried, 876-1274.

The club voted in favor of using its funds to subsidize the RARS News for an additional five months. A continued effort to solicite advertising and radio gear to auction off at the clubs benefit is encouraged.

Dean Straw, WB4YOJ, brought us up to date on field day plans. The club should have a good chance of scoring very well this year with very good operation, antennas and rigs available this time. Thanks go to those fellows who have volunteered their time and equipment for the benefit of all.

Following the coffee break our Section Communications Manager, Chuck Bridges, W4WXZ, gave an interesting talk on his roll as an ARRL representative and explained the appointments program. Chuck pointed out there were 266,025 amateurs on the FCC roles as of May 1, 1972. If the estimates of fifty percent of these hams are active then the ARRL membership of approximately 85,000 amateurs represents a major portion of the active group. It was pointed out that when you write to league headquarters address your one letter for each subject area to the specific editor or section. Correspondence moving from one section to another can lead to delays and inadequate responses.

Chuck also indicated he and the other hams in the state would like to see the N.C. State ham license plate situation improved and asked that we in the capital city do what we can and advise the state clubs at large.

Ed Alderman acted as auctioneer and collected some $35 for the treasury. Thanks particularly to Stan Grady, WN4ZTF, and Floyd, K4EQA for their contribution of the Waters Keyer. We should find some more goodies like that!

Bert Bailey, W4FMN told of local CD plans for an emergency exercise to be held week of June 12. See details elsewhere in the paper.

Meeting adjourned at 11 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Chuck Littlewood, W4RUH, Sec.

RARS SOCIAL

On Sunday, July 9, the RARS will hold a social gathering at Charlie Brown's Lakeside Steak House. All club members are invited and are urged to attend. The menu will be from the excellent buffet served by Charlie and is usually a choice of two or three meats, three or four vegatables, drink, dessert, and salads. Cost will be $5.00 per person, $10.00 per couple, which includes the meal, set-ups, tip, and cover charge (in other words, total cost is $5.00 each; for everything - there is no other charge). Be sure to bring the XYL or girlfriend (WA4PEN says either one, not both) and have a good time at the social. Starting time is 7:00 PM. We will ask for a count at the July 5 meeting to get an idea of how many will come, so be sure to tell the XYL and let us know.

Let your friend and mine, WB4PNR, Power Vacuum your ductwork, flue, blower, etc. FB rates.
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2401 Wake Forest Road 833-7591

The simulated "disaster" at the NC State Fairgrounds gave amateur radio an excellent chance to demonstrate its worth for Civil Defense operations in Wake County. Amateur communications were handled on 2 meter FM with mobile and portable stations set up in hospitals and at the "disaster" area in just minutes. Thanks to Danny, K4ITL, his repeater was used and performed in its usual fine way. With the many 2 meter mobiles in the Raleigh area, amateurs in Wake county should be able to cover most any communication situation in the county. Bert, W4FMN, our Wake County EC, has more information in this paper on the operations on the night of June 14.

In July, the first "Open CD" Parties will be held by the ARRL. CD is short for Communications Department. The contests are open to all ARRL members. For more information, see page 70 in the June QST. And if you don't get QST, you are not an ARRL member. Join Now!

As all club members know, the Executive & Advisory Committee meets on the third Tuesday night of each month. The committee consists of club officials and committee chairmen and any other club members interested in making the RARS the best club in the world. This is not a closed committee. All members are invited to the informal meetings at the CD building and make suggestions for a better club. Oh yes, The RARS 'train' usually has a full head of steam! But just remember, all of the passengers having a fine time with WA4ZNA at the controls and his "fireman", K4CQJ, keep the boiler hot!

Bert, W4FMN, would like to send in a bigger net report, so help him out by calling into the 2 meter FM net on Monday nights at 8:00 PM. The frequency is 146.94 MHz.

Bert is also looking for Novice crystals no longer in use. See his article and find out what his real motive is.

AMATEUR RADIO WEEK

Governor Bob Scott has proclaimed the week of June 25 as Amateur Radio Week in North Carolina. This special week starts on Field Day weekend. For the first time, all four states in the Roanoke Division will have Amateur Radio Week on the Field Day weekend. South Carolina, Virginia, and West Virginia have also proclaimed a special week for amateur radio.

NEW MEMBERS AND UPGRADES

Three new members were added to the RARS roster in June. All are prospective amateurs. The are James M. Leatherwood, 3412 Leonard Street, Mark B. Leonard, 310 Colleton Road, and David R. Wilder, 1512 Beechwood Drive.

A new Novice is Howard Person, WN4ZMT. Jesse Hodges, W4EEL, is now the proud holder of an Advanced License and Alan Browne, ex-WN4PZX, has a general license. His new call is WA4AFB. Wonder what WB4PZW and WB4ZSM think of that? Congratulations to you all.

Chuck Littlewood, W4RUH, has a new QTH. He now overlooks Raleigh from 4916 Auburn Road. Now did he move just to get those antennas higher above sea level?

PRAISES

Carl Drumeller, W5JJ, editor of the Collector & Emitter, had some nice comments for the RARS News. The C&E is the monthly publication of the Aeronautical Center Radio Club in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. Carl's comment follows: "RALEIGH AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY NEWS, a new one edited by Dave Langley, a long-time ACARC member, displays an excellent job of reproduction: clear type, good contrast. It has a 'Mini-Technical Review' somewhat like C-E but with fewer publications covered. Its "Calendar Of Events" is something for the ACARC to consider emulating."

PARTY LINE

Attention QSL Bureau: G. B. Shaw once said, "A man without an address is a vagabond; a man with two addresses is a libertine." If he has the wrong address, he's a radio amateur. If he refuses to give his address, he's a CB'er.

The Jr. Op. is a member of the "Jet Set". The OM is a member of the "Pooped Group". After we get our new rig, we'll be a member of the "Debt Set" (also after taxes).

Computers, bah! Life was much more pleasant back in the old days when the OM could get all the information he needed from the almanac -- or the 75 meter band.

Jack the Ripper is alive and well -- and operating on the Twenty meter band.

When most of us are old enough to sit around and ham it up we find that nature has been generous -- as she has provided us with a cushion.

-- From ARNS--

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FOR SALE - Heath HR-10B Receiver, Heath DX-60B Transmitter, $110.00, sold as pair only, you pay shipping. WB4VHE, Bob Price, 1112 Rockwood Avenue, Burlington, N. C. 27215, phone (919) 228-1522.

HELP FOR NOVICES

WANTED: Any ole beat up xtals on hand that can be used in the Novice bands, let's bring them to the next meeting. We'll put them all together and, if desired, label with owner's data. The object is to maintain a novice bank to help new novices to get wid the program. They can be issued out like library books. Here is where the resemblence stops, however --- the xtals are returned so the next WN can use. If no xtals, give me some ideas on how best to handle this detail. TNX.

--Bert, W4FMN--

RARS CALENDAR OF EVENTS

July 5 . . . Regular meeting
July 9 . . . RARS Social
July 15-16 . "Open" CD Party - CW
July 15-17 . South Carolina QSO Party
July 18 . . . Executive & Advisory Committee meets
July 19 . . . FM Committee meets
July 22-23 . "Open" CD Party - Phone

August 2 . . . . Regular meeting
August 15 . . . . Executive & Advisory Committee meets
August 16 . . . . FM Committee meets
September 6 . . . Regular meeting
September 9-10 . VHF QSO Party
September 19 . . Executive & Advisory Committee meets
September 20 . . FM Committee meets

RARS 2 METER FM NET --- MONDAY NIGHTS AT 8:00 PM --- 146.94 MHz

Toot! Toot!

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